

NEWSDAY

27 May 1976

Letters

CIA: No Newsmen Need Apply

Your editorial "A Case of Subversion From Within" (May 5) has come to my attention. In it you said my statement of last February 11 "seemed to promise that journalists would no longer be hired."

My statement said: "Effective immediately, CIA will not enter into any paid or contractual relationship with any full-time or part-time news correspondent accredited by any U.S. new service, newspaper, periodical, radio or television network or station. As soon as feasible, the agency will bring existing relationships with individuals in these groups into conformity with this new policy."

This policy is being carried out.

You may base the views in your editorial on statements in the Senate Select Committee report. The committee was working from brief and necessarily highly sanitized case summaries. We do not necessarily agree with their conclusions.

Although the body of your editorial says nothing about subversion, the caption over it does. I can assure you it has never been the intent, nor is it the intent now, nor will it be the intent in the future, for the CIA to attempt to "subvert" the American press.

George Bush, Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C.